

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Figure 2 is presented with redline corrections. A new set of formal drawings is also submitted for approval.

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in the current application. In an Office Action dated December 7, 2005 ("Office Action"), the Examiner objected to Figure 2, objected to claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 12, 14, 16, 18, and 20, and indicated that claims 1-20 would be allowable once the objections have been addressed. Applicants' representative would like to thank the Examiner for the conditional allowance of claims 1-20. Applicants' representative has addressed the objection to Figure 2 in the above amendments to the drawings, and has addressed certain of the claim objections in the above amendments.

Applicants' representative is in a bit of a difficult position with respect to certain other of the claim objections. Applicants' representative does not want to jeopardize the conditional allowances of claims 1-20, and does not wish to in any other way obstruct or retard the prosecution of the current application. However, Applicants' representative cannot make certain of the amendments suggested by the Examiner.

For example, Applicants' representative cannot make the substitutions for the terms "diode-like" and "resistor-like" suggested by the Examiner. First, these terms are defined in the current application, beginning on line 27 of page 9, as follows:

Note that the terms "diode-like" and "resistor-like" indicate that the elements are nanoscale analogs to microscale and macroscale diodes and resistors, but not necessarily having all characteristics similar to the larger scale analogs.

Thus, the terms are well defined. Second, the elements of the claimed invention referred to as diode-like or resistor-like are not diodes and resistors. These are molecular electronics components, and not identical in function to microscale and larger-scale diodes and resistors. Applicants' representative would be happy to consider other suggestions, or discuss this matter with the Examiner, but substituting "diode element" for phrase "diode-like switch element" would mischaracterize the invention.

Applicants' representative does not understand the first three objections to claims 1 and 12. The term "switch element" is well known in electronics, and refers to any of various types of electronic switches. Applicants' representative knows of no reason that a general term cannot be employed in a claim. Furthermore, Applicants'

representative does not understand on what the basis the Examiner requires additional definitions in claims 1 and 12. It would be of great assistance to Applicants' representative for the Examiner to cite a rule, statute, or case law justifying or explaining these objections. Furthermore, Applicants' representative has taken great care to draft a detailed and clearly explained and illustrated application, in which all of the claimed elements are quite clearly presented. Applicants' representative believes that the claims, as drafted, are fully supported by the current application. Applicants' representative would be quite happy to discuss these objections in a short telephone interview, if that would be convenient for the Examiner. Applicants' representative can be reached at (206) 621 1838 from 9:45 AM to 11:00 PM PST each day of the business week.

In Applicants' representative's opinion, all of the claims remaining in the current application are clearly allowable. Favorable consideration and a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard A. Baugh and Yong Chen
Olympic Patent Works PLLC


Robert W. Bergstrom
Registration No. 39,906

Enclosures:

Postcard
Transmittal in duplicate
Redline Figure 2
Drawing Transmittal
Twenty-nine sheets of Formal Drawings

Olympic Patent Works PLLC
P.O. Box 4277
Seattle, WA 98194-0277
206.621.1933 telephone
206.621.5302 fax



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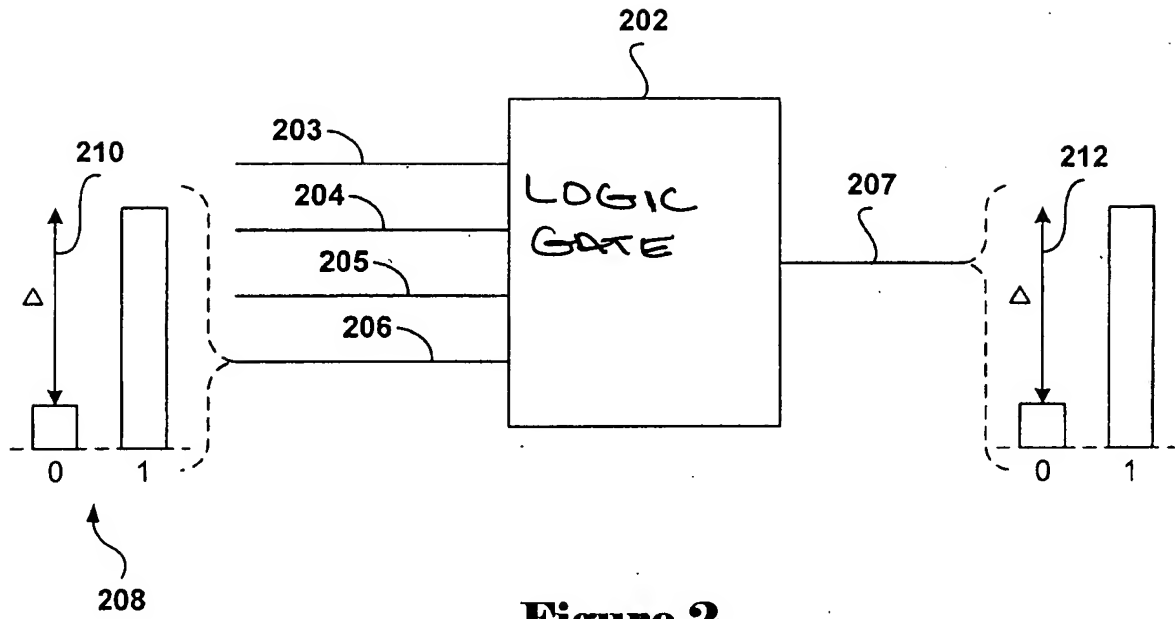


Figure 2